THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

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Philadelphia, May 2, 1980

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
President of the
Rockefeller University, and
Chairman of the
President's Advisory Panel
on National Cancer Policy,
New York, N.Y. 10021

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

This is to communicate to you the results and the preventive aspects of my study of breast cancer and barrier contraception, and to refer to you the consequent personal and professional developments related to the study, with the hope of your help.

I am a physician and epidemiologist from Yugoslavia. As a United Nations Fellow and a Fulbright-Hays Scholar at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, I have been pursuing a study of breast cancer between 1972-1978, which was designed to test a new concept of the etiology of the disease. During the last several years I was affiliated with the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, Dept. of Research Medicine and Dept. of Obstetrics and Gynecology in Philadelphia, where the clinical part of the breast cancer research was completed. The results of the study corroborate the hypothesis that there is a significant relationship between the exposure to barrier contraception, specifically the use of condom, and the development of breast cancer in married women. The practical application of the study is that the results indicate a potential for preventive action against the disease for a sizeable proportion of women in the United States population, and presumably in other countries as well. The preliminary results of the study were published several times, and summaries and reports of the study have been reported in a number of professional periodicals and commercial press. Under the title "Barrier Contraception and Breast Cancer" the study has just been published as a monograph. For your information and record, enclosed is a copy of the preliminary report and a reprint of the abstract of the final report of the study (dissertation), along with the copies of the first page and of the Foreword of the monograph.

Attempts were made to inform the health authorities in this country about the study and its promising results. A number of inquiries were also made to the major breast cancer programs, cancer centers and other institutions for support of this and initiation of further studies in the field of female neoplasia. I lost my job in the medical controversy, and was not able to find a position. In this situation, it became apparent to me that I could not be able to work and to meet my basic family, professional, and legal requirements.

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Presently, I am trying to advance a second study, a continuation of the breast cancer study, which is an attempt to define the underlying conditions conducive to the developments of neoplasia of the female reproductive system, including the breast. Furthermore, I was recently advised by the organizators to participate in, and my breast cancer study was accepted for presentation at the International Symposium on the Prevention and Detection of Cancer in London, England, July 25-31, 1980. Both projects, together with my ability to function in the field of cancer research in this country, are now in jeopardy. It is my belief that the results of my study, along with the proposed measures for prevention of breast cancer, contribute to an effective control of the disease in this country, and may correspond to the objectives of the national cancer policy. I would appreciate very much your help in the referred matters. For your consideration in both your academic and governmental capacities, please find enclosed copies of selected documents, including: correspondence with the directors of the Food and Drug Administration and the National Cancer Institute in Washington, D.C. and the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta, Ga., a waiver request to the State Department, and the order of the Immigration and Naturalization Service in Philadelphia of April 14, 1980. I would gladly present to you the final report and the monograph of the study along with other necessary documents and material, if and when such an opportunity arises.

I shall be looking forward to hearing from you.

Respectfully yours,

Arne N. Gjorgov, M.D., Ph.D.

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